



Vol. 1 Issue 1

USS RONALD REAGAN (CVN 76)

May 6, 2004

Reagan Sailors go cashless

by JO3 Shane Tuck
Staff Writer

Sailors aboard USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) received a first-rate service, Apr. 27, when the Navy Cash program went live and eliminated the necessity for coin and currency on board.

From vending machine purchases to Morale Welfare and Recreation tickets, any cash purchase aboard ship will require a Navy Cash card.

The card automates the financial process aboard the ship and frees departments that handle money so they can assist Sailors better.

"Not needing cash on board will make things easier and faster," said AA Wyatt Coppernoll, Air Department. "All we have to do is swipe the card through a machine and we're done."

The Navy Cash card does more than make purchases aboard the ship convenient.

The card makes funds more secure because it requires a personal identification number (PIN).

"Cards are PIN protected, and will decrease theft on board," said DK2 Willie Hogan, Supply Department. "It also gives



by PH3 Robert Erb
USS Ronald Reagan Commanding Officer, Capt. James A. Symonds, uses the Navy Cash card on an ATM located on board. The ship is the first carrier to use the Navy Cash system, which eliminates the use of normal currency.

you more control over your money."

Nobody can access an account without knowing a card's PIN.

Disbursing will block the account if the PIN is entered incorrectly three

times in a row.

After 10 incorrect attempts, that card will be rendered useless.

There are two separate accounts attached to the Navy Cash card – the strip and chip accounts.

The strip account, or Navy Cash account, is accepted wherever you see the MasterCard logo.

The account is used as a debit card, so you can't spend money that is not already in the account.

When you need cash ashore, the card is accepted at all locations displaying any logo on the back of your card.

Navy Cash will not charge a withdraw fee, but the bank owning the automatic teller machine (ATM) may.

It may also be used for online purchases or as a phone card.

The chip account is used to make purchases aboard the ship.

If you need cash, transfer funds to your chip account and see Disbursing to make a cash withdraw.

There are three different machines on board that accept the Navy Cash card: the cashless ATM, point of sale device and the card access device (CAD).

There are five cashless ATMs aboard located throughout the aft mess decks. Unlike a normal ATM, this ATM doesn't issue a receipt or dispense cash. With the cashless ATM, you can check the

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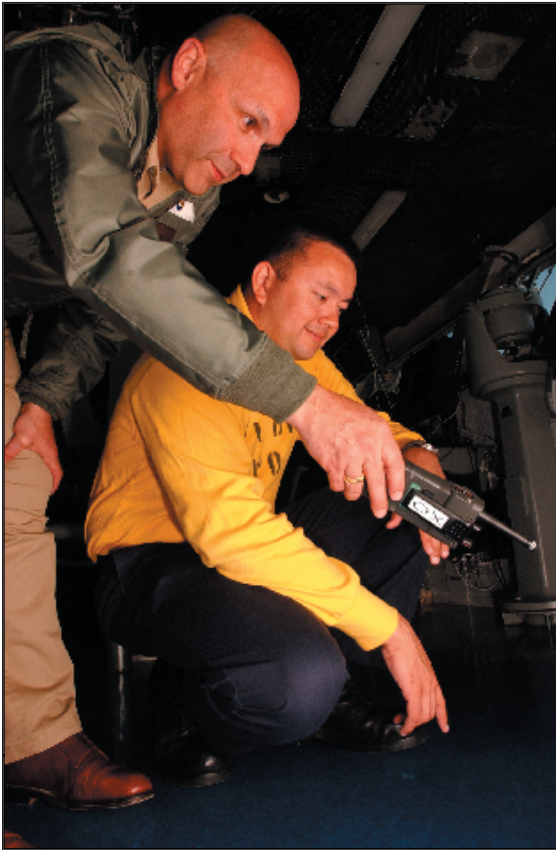
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Shadow: *XO's program gives Sailors working view at the top*



by PHAN Stephanie Broughton
Capt. Andres Brugal, executive officer (XO), USS Ronald Reagan, inspects a work space after field day with ABH1 Darwin Soriano, Air Department, during the Executive Officer's Shadow program aboard Ronald Reagan. The program is designed to allow one crew member each week to get a better understanding of the daily responsibilities of the executive officer by following him around for one day.

**By JO3 Megan Moline
Staff Writer**

He is often seen walking around the decks with an air of purpose and determination. Wherever he goes, crewmembers stand to the side to let him sweep by. He always pauses for a moment to say a quick, "Thanks, Shipmate," before getting to his destination.

Once a week, someone is seen jogging to keep up in his wake. One leading, one following; the teacher and his pupil -- the executive officer (XO) and his shadow.

Every Wednesday, a Sailor is selected by their department to shadow the XO for the day.

"The shadow program is a brainchild from my time with industry executives," said Capt. Andrés Brugal. "They use shadow programs for mostly college undergraduates who follow the executive around, and it gives them a taste of what the business world is like. I thought the program would apply well for Sailors and junior

officers, and they can see what is involved in the decision-making process, which will hopefully inspire them to a higher leadership position."

For those Sailors selected to be XO shadows, the day starts at 6:30 a.m. in the XO's stateroom. For Information Technologist 1st Class (SW) Miguel Torres, Combat Systems Department, what happened before breakfast set the tone for the rest of the day.

"Prior to breakfast, the XO reviewed his inbox and went through about a dozen items that required his signature," said Torres. "If there was a question, he would go directly to the source for an answer. The decisions he made prior to breakfast affected individual members as well as the entire crew, and I did not envy him at all."

At 7:00 a.m. the shadow has breakfast with the XO in the officers' wardroom, then meets with Commanding Officer Capt. James Symonds and

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Commanding Officer
Capt. James Symonds

Executive Officer
Capt. Andres Brugal

Public Affairs Officer
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Note: On the front page, the flag picture was taken by PHC(AW/SW) Michael Cole.

Spanish Lessons ...

"Donde Esta El Bano"

"Where is the Bathroom?"

Skateboard gives OS3 fat lip

By Naval Safety Center

An OS3 got back to the ship from liberty and what to his wondering eyes did appear but a shipmate with a skateboard in the hangar bay. Time for some ORM (Off-duty Risk Magnification).

First, he was a tad sloshed after he absorbed a few drinks earlier that evening, and skateboards tend to be tipsy enough by themselves. Second, he borrowed the skateboard

to demonstrate the ever-popular kick flip, or Ollie, or some such shenanigan. And third, he launched onto some nonskid.

Having magnified the risk enough, his next move was the never-popular face-first pancake onto the deck.

One day in the hospital, 11 days away from work and six weeks of light duty. Also, 12 days of trying to explain what happened with his jaw wired shut.

Letters to the Editor

Welcome to the first edition of The Great Communicator. Hopefully, there will be 50 long years of interesting articles and cool pictures for Sailors to read.

The paper is being published three days a week while underway: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. The newspaper staff welcomes story suggestions and other ideas. This is your paper, and just as you had the opportunity to name it, you also have the opportunity to make it better.

All photographic support in this publication is done by the photo lab, and the staff thanks them for their great photography.

The Letters to the Editor segment is our form of two-way communication. You can send us questions about anything on your mind, and we'll try to answer them to the best of our ability.

Questions should be sent to apao@reagan.navy.mil. We hope you enjoy this as much as we enjoy making it.

-- Managing Editor

Reader's Choice...

If you could add one meal to the Mess Menu, what would it be?



AZ2 Fletcher
"Shrimp, Beef and
Chicken Kabobs"



YN3 Johnson
"Shrimp Alfredo"



AOAN Doyle
"Chicken Cordon Blue"



DK3 Medina
"Green Enchiladas and
Chile Rellanos"



ABE1 Moreno –
"Curry Chicken and
Island Food"

CASHLESS

Continued from front page

card's account balances, change your pin and transfer funds.

The cashless ATM is like any ATM machine in town.

Always insert your card chip up and chip first, enter your PIN and follow the menu instructions.

You can move funds from your personal account to your Navy Cash account, from Navy Cash to the chip or from your chip to another card's chip.

Although the cashless ATM doesn't issue statements, you can access account information at www.navycash.com.

Up to 13 months of transactions may be viewed at the website.

The point of sale device is used when making a purchase aboard ship using your chip. The chip acts as your wallet.

The point of sale device will display your new balance after any purchase.

When the chip's balance runs low, transfer more funds to the chip at any cashless ATM.

To check your Navy Cash balance you must

use a cashless ATM.

All vending machine dollar bill slots have been replaced with a CAD.

Vending machine purchases don't require the entry of a PIN number.

You may spend \$25 on vending machine purchases before being required to validate your PIN.

To validate a PIN number enter the card into any cashless ATM or point of sale device and enter the PIN.

Be sure to prepare your account before you take liberty.

Money transferred to your strip account will only be available ashore after disbursing closes at the end of day.

Transactions are uploaded from the ship's server to the Navy Cash program server at least once a day.

That data is confirmed and sent back from the ship's server.

This is called a round trip, which normally takes several hours if everything runs smoothly.

If possible, you should

transfer your funds at least 72 hours before pulling into port to avoid unforeseen difficulties.

There are a few different ways to receive funds in your Navy Cash account.

Split pay goes to your Navy Cash account every payday.

Funds may also be transferred from your home account to your Navy Cash account using a cashless ATM aboard ship.

A maximum of \$400 a day can be transferred to the account.

Disbursing may reduce or block your ability to transfer funds if you don't act responsibly.

The disbursing office can also transfer your cash or check directly to your Navy Cash account.

The card can hold no more than \$1,000.

If you lose your card, report it to Disbursing immediately.

If anyone tries to use your card, the card will be hot listed and rendered useless.

Disbursing will issue a temporary card until a new personalized card is received.

If you're ashore and have lost your card, call 1-866-3navycash for customer service.

Reel Time

The Butterfly Effect

**Tonight on
Channel 5**

by JO3 Shane Tuck
Staff Writer

A philosophical, sci-fi wonderland about a son's extraordinary inherited ability to create alternate realities by dredging up the past. A young man can't remember certain traumatic

ACTING = B-
DIRECTING = C+
STORYLINE = A-
C-TOGRAPHY = C+
OVERALL = B-

childhood moments due to vicious blackouts and they eventually become wormholes into his many realities. This uncanny ability to possibly mend past mistakes lands his father in a mental hospital, unable to communicate with his fated son.

Review -- This film is very well thought out with a captivating storyline, which ignites early. But, its "skip-to-my-lou" pace jumps from episode to episode with a played out Quantum Leap-style arrangement. Ashton Kutcher, known for his slapstick comedies, shows potential as a serious actor ... but don't expect any Oscars in his immediate future. I wouldn't be surprised if this film attracts future thought-provoking roles for the rookie actor. If you like stimulating sci-fi films, see this flick. Otherwise, spin the wheel of destiny on another film.

MOVIES Tonight

Channel 2
Shaft
Shanghi Noon
Torque
X-Men

Channel 5
The Whole 9 Yards
Drowning Mona
The Butterfly Effect
Held Up

Tomorrow
Channel 2
Autumn in New York
Coyote Ugly
The Cooler
Highlander: Endgame

Channel 5
Jackie Chan's Project A
Nutty Professor 2
The Perfect Storm
Barbershop 2

SHADOW

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Command Master Chief Kathleen Hansen during their daily morning meeting.

"I think one of the best parts of the program is the meeting we have with the CO and CMC," said Brugal. "I want the program to take the mystery away from how a ship is run, and I think it's great for the shadow to be able to sit in on this meeting. They can see what the CO considers important, and how the CMC and I carry out the CO's guidance to the rest of the ship."

"I now better understand how command decisions and shipboard policy are achieved. I understand where the chiefs and division officers get their direction," said Torres.

The next part of the day is spent walking around the ship during "Spirit of 76," an hour-long cleaning evolution designed to keep the ship clean.

"We walked the ship, and he spoke to many people on the spot, asking them about how they are doing and what they would change if they could," said Store Keeper 1st Class (SW) Marianne Esparza, a shadow from Supply

Department.

Brugal explained that he takes the moment of correcting Sailors as a training opportunity.

"When I do have to correct a Sailor, I want to do it more as a teacher than as a policeman. I think it carries more weight that way," said Brugal.

The rest of the day is spent attending the department head meeting, checking email, answering phones and holding impromptu meetings with people who need the XO's assistance.

"He had me see every part of his day, including checking his email and putting phone calls on speaker," said Esparza. "He involved me in everything, and I saw the responsibilities on a level I really never realized."

Master at Arms 3rd Class Melissa Velez was considering getting out of the Navy before she was selected to be a shadow. Her experience had such a positive impact that it changed her outlook on being a leader in the Navy.

"The experience was able to give me insight as to what it might be like to be an officer. I am actually considering putting in

my officer's package, and I feel that shadowing with the XO had great influence on my decision," said Velez.

Brugal said he was pleased that Velez had such a positive experience being his shadow.

"If nothing else happens with the XO shadow program, it was worth it to be able to make enough of an impact on one person that it caused her to want to take a difficult road and do something to push and better herself," said Brugal.

All the Sailors who participated in the program said the experience was beneficial and worth participating in for many different reasons.

"The factors he took into consideration (during decision making) would not have even come to my mind," said Torres. "His perspective on some items was truly from a very big-picture level. I gained some insight into his world, which helped me broaden mine."

The shadow participants said the program not only helped them, but they also wanted others to be able to experience what they did.

"This was my best day on board. I would recommend it for anyone. I hope that the program is expanded, and junior Sailors in

large departments could shadow the department head," said Esparza. "I think anyone would really benefit from this program the same way I did."

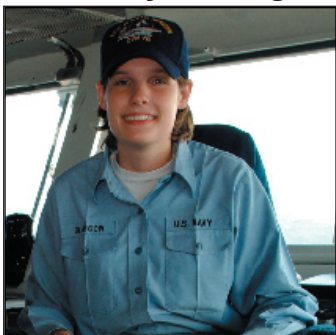
"Any Ronald Reagan Sailor who spends a day with the XO will without a doubt gain an appreciation and new respect for his entire chain of command. They will gain insight on how things are done at a higher level, and learn about the hundreds of things that go on behind the scenes that I'm sure they never even thought about," said Torres. "I would encourage anyone who has the opportunity to be the XO's shadow to take it and be prepared for an exhausting day."

The most interesting part of the program, said Brugal, is getting feedback from the shadow on how command policies are working.

"I get my motivation from the Sailors," said Brugal, his mouth widening into a grin. He then leaned forward in his chair and said in a low, serious voice, "If the shadow only would take one part of the day away with them, I hope it is the message that the CO and I care about the ship and the crew."

Although Brugal is an average height, through this program, his shadow is cast across the entire span of the carrier and takes the form of every crewmember on board.

Monday

Sailor of the Day
PCSA Kayla Glasgow

by PHAA Kathleen Gorby

Name: Kayla A. Glasgow

Rate / Rank: PCSA

Div / Dept: Supply, S-12

Job Title: Finance/ Window clerk

Where are you from? Crest hill, Ill.
Why did you join the Navy? To get an education and to start a career

What did you do before you joined

the Navy? I had two part time jobs. One as a receptionist and the other a waitress

Where is your favorite place to visit? Chicago

What's your favorite movie? Silence of the Lambs

What's your favorite book?

Desperation by Steven King

What's your favorite song? Wish you were here, by Incubus

What inspires you? Music

Who do you hold responsible for your success? All of my family and my soul mate, Kenny

What's your favorite quote? It is better to have loved and lost than to have never loved at all

What piece of advice would you pass on to others? Live life how you want to live it not how everyone else wants you to live it, and to live everyday like it's your last 'cause you never know when that day will be.

Wednesday

Sailor of the Day
ABFAN Browning

by PHAA Kathleen Gorby

Name: William R. Browning

Rate / Rank: ABFAN

Div / Dept: Air, V-4

Job Title: Crew Leader

Where are you from? Seattle, Wash.

Why did you join the Navy? To see the world

What did you do before you joined the Navy? Lived off mom and dad

Where is your favorite place to visit? Florida

What's your favorite movie?

Wayne's World

What's your favorite book? Silent Joe

What's your favorite song?

"Yeah," by Usher

What inspires you? My family

Who do you hold responsible for your success? My supervisors and my family

What's your favorite quote?

Hubba Hubba, Chop Chop, you can check your email later
What piece of advice would you pass on to others? Look toward every day with a positive attitude